

Symington Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on 21st October 2025 at 7pm in the Hall for All, Symington.

Present: Liz Kelly (Chair), Dave Houfe (Secretary and Vice Chair), Deborah Lochhead (Treasurer), John Mulholland, Rhona Duncan,

Apologies: Julie Howie (updates received by email), Jillian Mulholland, Cllr Duncan Townson, Cllr Stephen Ferry, Audrey Gatt

Declarations: none

In attendance: Cllr Julie Dettbarn, Jan McGarry

1.	Approval of previous meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 19 th September 2025 were proposed by DH, seconded by RD.	
2.	Matters arising and outstanding items: Local bus service tracker screen – On-going. To contact SAC Chief Executive to request meeting ARA contacted school to ascertain what they have done to discourage poor parking around school and offer support. Electronic speed signs – Contractor conducting authority wide inspection of all signage. Once complete existing signage can be altered. No update on double yellow markings at Brewlands Crescent. Pavement parking – after review by ARA there would be no exemption certificates due to utilities under the footway. Speeding measures – speed surveys to be conducted on Main Street to assess what traffic calming measures would be viable. Cllr Dettbarn to check if pinch points had been dismissed by the community previously during discussion of 20mph scheme. Brewlands Drive overgrown hedge – ongoing. Village Resilience Plan – awaiting information from service providers. Ongoing Knockendale corner safety – awaiting update.	<i>JH</i> <i>JH</i> <i>JH</i> <i>JH</i> <i>JH</i> <i>Cllr JD</i> <i>Cllr JD</i> <i>DH</i> <i>JH</i>

	<p>Ward Capital Spend. The following items are to be addressed</p> <p>Car Park in Shaw Park to be resurfaced – awaiting final council approval. Following are all on track.</p> <p>Kerrix Road – “Welcome to Symington” signage</p> <p>Finger posts</p> <p>Pavilion rebuild – works are ongoing.</p> <p>Pathway to Children’s play area, Shaw Park. Cllr Dettbarn to investigate as closed off on SAC website.</p>	<p><i>Cllrs. Dettbarn/Ferry</i></p> <p><i>Cllr JD</i></p>
3.	<p>Police Report:</p> <p>No police report from Police Scotland - DH to contact.</p>	<i>DH</i>
4.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>Email Hallbar Homes – Coodham Newsletter No.2 September 2025</p> <p>Email - Stay Well, Stay Connected! Event dates and locations of demonstration of innovations that can help make life simpler and easier. Details to be posted on SCC website.</p> <p>Email - Historic Environment Scotland (HES) An engaging, in-person workshop as part of a national conversation about Scotland’s heritage.</p> <p>Email - Burnbrae woodland creation Update of timescales for implementation by Mactaggart & Mickel.</p>	<p><i>DH</i></p> <p><i>DH</i></p>
5.	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance is £2655.54. 	<i>DL</i>
6.	<p>Planning Report:</p> <p>Coodham – no further information to date.</p> <p>Townend House – awaiting retrospective planning application from Enhanced Healthcare. Deadline 17/10/2025 has passed.</p>	<i>JH</i>
7.	<p>Elected members Reports:</p> <p>Councillor Dettbarn reported that a meeting has been arranged, facilitated by Elena Whitham MSP, between Enhance Healthcare (EHC), Cllrs Dettbarn, Ferry & Townson and members of Symington Community Council. The outcome of the meeting would be to seek community engagement.</p>	

	<p>Townend House</p> <p>Chair Liz Kelly read out. “Symington Community Council: Position statement on Townend House October 2025</p> <p><i>Symington Community Council acknowledges that the majority of residents who have given their views online, and at Community Council meetings oppose the proposed change in focus of Townend House to Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation. It is essential that all Symington residents, but particularly those living in close proximity to Townend House, have the opportunity to express their concerns and have them addressed by the care provider.</i></p> <p><i>Everyone has a right to feel safe and secure in their own home and community. At the moment, with the lack of public engagement, Symington residents are not comfortable with the current proposals by Enhance Healthcare for services provided at Townend House. Symington Community Council is committed to ensuring that Symington residents are given the opportunity to talk directly with representatives of Enhance Healthcare, and it is not expected to act as a go-between.”</i></p> <p>Members of the public present were in support of SCC's standpoint.</p> <p>LK also reported that members of SCC had met with Symington Action group to discuss how the two groups could work/share information together. Distinct roles were identified for the two groups. Questions regarding operational issues were raised, and unfortunately were left unanswered. Community Council would continue to seek a public meeting with EHC to answer operational queries and concerns.</p> <p>LK advised that three members from SCC would be joining local councillors at the meeting with EHC facilitated by Elena Whitham MSP in pursuit of a public meeting. Outcomes of the meeting will be reported back at the next Community Council meeting.</p>	
8.	<p>Pollinator Friendly Symington (PFS):</p> <p>Wildflower Verge</p> <p>Community volunteers have started the annual cut and collect of the wildflower verge along Symington Road South and it will be completed over the next couple of weeks.</p>	DH

	<p>Pow Burn Riverwoods SCC in partnership with the Farm Advisory Service (SAC Consulting) and Ayrshire Rivers Trust have been awarded a development grant for the Scottish Wildlife Trust's Riverwoods. The plan has been posted on the SCC website: Project/Pow Burn Riverwoods. For volunteering opportunities, contact Davide Houfe or email the Community Council.</p> <p>Tree planting in the village SAC has indicated it still intends to provide trees to replace those we planted two winters ago that have been lost to grass cutting, along with protection for these trees.</p>	
9.	<p>Community Action Plan: AG has presented the draft plan to SCC members. SCC to meet with AG on November 5th to complete the Action Plan based on the community priorities. Once completed focus will turn to the Local Place Plan.</p>	AG/SCC
10.	<p>AOCB Remembrance Day wreath has now been received and will be laid by a resident on behalf of the community.</p>	
11.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 18th November 2025, followed by Public Meeting in Hall 2 - Symington Community Hall 7pm</p>	